

SECRET

IDEA 0486
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MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Materiel Staff. DPD

ATTENTION:

SUBJECT: Combat Ready Status of IDEALIST Assets

1. The recent equipment failures experienced on operations missions highlight an area where increased reliability is perhaps possible. Admittedly, I do not know the details of what actions are currently being taken along the lines of my suggestions. However, to my knowledge, the frequency of preflights, ground and/or bench checks, as well as in-flight checks of aircraft and associated equipment has not been identified, but is largely a matter of the individual detachment's discretion.

2. I know that the proper time interval between inspections and/or flight checks is highly controversial and few people agree on the "best" answer. However, I am sure you agree there is a requirement to try to find as good an answer as possible and then to define the position as a standard to be used by field personnel in scheduling such checks.

3. The proposal attached is a beginning position and is likely to be radically changed. It is requested that you consider the subject and make your views known - then, let's get together and see if we can develop a Headquarters-approved policy for use by all interested personnel.

SIGNED

Chief, Special Projects Branch. DPD

Attachment - 1

DPD/SPB (22 Sept 61)

Distribution:

- #1 & 2 - DPD/C/MS
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